

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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O R 230922Z SEP 76 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5640

S E C R E T PRETORIA 4323

NODIS CHEROKEE

FOR THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJ: CONVERSATION WITH BRAND FOURIE

REF: SECTO 27295 AND SECTO 27303

1. I SAW BRAND FOURIE AT 8:45 A.M. AND GAVE HIM MESSAGE CONTAINED SECTO 27303. HE SAID HE WAS ALSO DUBIOUS ABOUT SMITH MAKING REFERENCE TO DE-ESCALATION IN HIS SPEECH AND HAD URGED CAUTION ON THIS SCORE. AT SAME TIME HE RECOGNIZED HOW IMPORTANT IT WAS TO WHITE ACCEPTANCE OF NEW DISPENSATION TO BE ASSURED THAT FIGHTING WOULD AT LEAST START TO DE-ESCALATE RIGHT AFTER SMITH ANNOUNCEMENT.

2. I REVIEWED WITH FOURIE OUTLOOK FOR FULL COMPLIANCE BY SMITH WITH UNDERSTANDINGS REACHED HERE. WE BOTH AGREED THAT SMITH IS ADHERING TO PROGRAM HE DESCRIBED TO YOU FOR OBTAINING CONSENSUS BEFORE MAKING SPEECH AND SHOWS NO RPT NO SIGN OF BACKSLIDING ON HIS COMMITMENT. AS FURTHER EVIDENCE OF SMITH'S GOOD INTENTIONS, FOURIE REFERRED TO FACT THAT TWO PERSONS ACCOMPANYING KEN FLOWER (PARAGRAPH 1E OF PRETORIA 4309) ARE COMING TO PRETORIA SPECIFICALLY TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC PACKAGE WITH HIM PREPARATORY TO HIS TRIP TO WASHINGTON NEXT SUNDAY.

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3. WITH RESPECT TO GETTING COMMITMENT FROM RHODESIANS BY TONIGHT THAT SMITH WILL MAKE ANNOUNCEMENT TOMORROW (PARA 3 OF SECTO 27295), FOURIE SAID THIS MAY DEPEND UPON WHETHER CONSULTATION WITH PARLIAMENTARY CAUCUS IS COMPLETED BY TONIGHT. HE FORESEES POSSIBILITY OF SESSION CONTINUING TOMORROW MORNING IN WHICH CASE IT MIGHT NOT BE POSSIBLE TO OBTAIN THAT COMMITMENT TODAY. WE AGREED TO TRY THROUGH HAWKINS AND FLOWER TO GET COMMITMENT EVEN IF CAUCUS SPILLS OVER. FOURIE AGAIN EMPHASIZED HE HAD NO REASON TO BELIEVE THAT SMITH WOULD RENEGE ON COMMITMENT.

4. I RAISED WITH FOURIE ISSUE OF CHANNEL FOR TRANSMITTING RHODESIAN COMMUNICATIONS. HE SAID HE HAD GIVEN BRITISH COPIES ONLY BECAUSE HAWKINS HAD REQUESTED IT. HAWKINS HAD EXPLAINED THAT SINCE BRITISH WOULD BE BACK IN FULL PICTURE AFTER SMITH ANNOUNCEMENT, THEY MIGHT AS WELL BE CLUED IN AS OF NOW. FOURIE SAID THAT HE COULD NOT DISREGARD SUCH A GOVERNMENTAL REQUEST. HOWEVER, IN MY PRESENCE HE CALLED HAWKINS AND TOLD HIM THAT BECAUSE OF CONFUSION THAT HAD ARISEN FROM TWO-CHANNEL USE, HE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT FOR NEXT FEW DAYS RHODESIANS NOT RPT NOT ASK THAT THEIR MESSAGES BE PASSED TO BRITISH. HAWKINS AGREED. FOURIE ESPECIALLY ANXIOUS FOR YOU TO KNOW THAT HE NEVER CONSIDERED PASSING COMMUNICATIONS TO YOU OTHER THAN THROUGH ME AND HAD GIVEN COPIES TO BRITISH ONLY BECAUSE HE HAD BEEN SPECIFICALLY ASKED TO DO SO. MINDFUL OF YOUR CONCERN ABOUT BRITISH ATTITUDES ON THIS SUBJECT, HE IS BEING MOST CAREFUL IN DEALING WITH SCOTT WHEN LATTER TAKES INITIATIVE IN RAISING ISSUES.

5. I TOLD FOURIE THAT I HAD AUTHORIZATION TO MEET WITH FLOWER. HE SAID HE WOULD SET UP SESSION THIS AFTERNOON TO INCLUDE FLOWER, SCOTT, BOWDLER AND HIMSELF. BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, CAT-C, CHEROKEE 09/23/76
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976PRETOR04323
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: P840109-2254
From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760928/aaaaaxmn.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 76 SECTO 27295, 76 SECTO 27303
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAY 2004 by MartinML>; APPROVED <10 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONVERSATION WITH BRAND FOURIE
TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, UK, RH, SF, US, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (FOURIE, BRAND), (SMITH, IAN)
To: NAIROBI LONDON STATE SS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006